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1 July 1952

Chief, SR  
Chief, EE  
Chief of Mission, Frankfurt

REDSOX/CACCOLA/Operational

Selection of Senior CAPABLE 1 Instructor for  
Second CACCOLA 1 Training Cycle

REF: MGMA-10216, MGMA-10217, MUNI-8856

1. When, in February 1952, meetings were held between [ ] and CAPABLE 7 to discuss the organization of the next CACCOLA training cycle, [ ] (backed by [ ]) indicated that we were dissatisfied with CACCOLA 2 as chief CAPABLE 1 instructor, and that we desired he be replaced in the next cycle. CAPABLE 7 immediately concurred that CACCOLA 2 was not enough of a leader for the job. However, he pointed out, CAPABLE 1 was still in a stage of reorganization and for this reason suitable replacements were at present rare. The qualified candidates, as was to be expected, were already committed to other operations (i.e., CAPABLE 24 in Berlin, CAPABLE 14 as head of the Cadre School).

2. The only one available was the subject of MGAA-245, an old and distinguished member of CAPABLE 1 recently returned from Argentina. It was agreed that he should be processed by us, and, should he meet our standards, be admitted to the training cycle before its conclusion in order to be able to take over thereafter from CACCOLA 2. Thus, we processed the subject of MGAA-245 and were prepared to admit him until the results of the hospital studies indicated he had active, infectious tuberculosis.

3. This performance upset CAPABLE 7, particularly as we had administered the CARRIAGE test before awaiting the results of the cultures, and as the University Clinic in Frankfurt later pronounced the subject (MGAA-245) non-infectious. CAPABLE 7 is still sure we rejected his candidacy, not because of TB, but because of his alleged connections with the SUVOROV Union in Argentina. Due to the unpleasantness of the affair and pressing business in the school, we postponed the problem of selecting a successor for CACCOLA 2 until after the dispatch of the three CACCOLA agents.

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4. Shortly before dispatch, however, CAPABLE 7 informed us he was now prepared to transfer CAPABLE 14 from his post as head of the Cadre School to take over CACCOLA 1. But he warned that should we reject CAPABLE 14, he would insist on CACCOLA 2's remaining, for no other candidates were immediately available. He further issued a warning that by normal medical standards CAPABLE 14 should long ago have demised and that his present life expectancy was problematical. Although only 35, he has had four complications of TB and recently had one kidney removed. It was CAPABLE 7's suggestion that if CAPABLE 14 proved non-infectious we should accept him, bearing in mind he was literally the best man in the organization for the job. Finally, CAPABLE 7 stipulated that in view of the episode involving the subject of MGAA-245, we should first decide the question of CAPABLE 14's health before proceeding to CARRIAGE him.

5. Against this background, we met CAPABLE 14 in Munich on 12 May 1952. He had previously been recommended by his excellent lectures on conspiratorial subjects, all of which we heard in recording, and by the warm accounts of him given by all the CACCOLA personnel. These recommendations were borne out in our conversations with him. In the first place, he is unusually intelligent. His training in law at the University of Belgrade has given him a sharp, judicial mind, and his intellectual curiosity has led him to a fluent knowledge of Serbian, Polish, German, French and English, aside from his native Russian. As an old time member of CAPABLE 1, he is very conversant with the Party philosophy, but displayed unusual understanding and sympathy for "the West", i.e., "No intelligent man would question the virtue of democratic forms. It is only a question of inspiring their content." He is particularly appreciative of the imaginative and forceful measures undertaken by the U.S. today against Communism.

As a "revolutionary" he has read a wealth of pertinent literature, and his memory is stocked with examples of good and bad conspiratorial techniques. His practical mind recognizes the importance of detail, and he recounted with delight how he had recently read a book which he could pronounce rewarding just because it had suggested hiding a small pistol in a large broom. "No possible association of ideas!"

Despite his poor health, he has a buoyant temperament and a lively sense of humor. He is decisive, and, unlike CACCOLA 2, enjoys assuming responsibility. Finally, although not Soviet bred, he is a thorough student of the Soviet Union.

6. CAPABLE 14 was reluctant to submit to another medical exam but did so in good grace. However, when ☐ recommended that he be confined to the hospital for ten days to undergo a thorough (and rather painful) check, he refused apologetically with the explanation that he had just been released from the hospital by his own doctors after a serious operation and was just not psychologically prepared to

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be admitted again. On the following day he agreed, nevertheless, to a three-day stay in the hospital in order to ascertain whether or not he was infectious. The results of these tests were then compared with those administered previously by the University Clinic in Frankfurt and by his personal physicians. These have been forwarded under separate cover (see MGMA-10216). As can be seen, there is agreement between all medical parties that CAPABLE 14, however ill, is not infectious. His medical history would indicate that a tubercular process will, in all probability, develop in his bladder -- if it has not already begun -- and from then move to his remaining kidney. When the latter becomes infected he must die, but when all this will happen is impossible to predict. It may be CAPABLE 14 will last for several years. It is equally possible he may die in a few months. Ideally, he should be confined to a sanatorium for at least a year, but to this he will not agree. He is feeling better than he has been for some time and is anxious to go on working either in the Bad Homburg Cadre School or with us. It is fair to say that our regime of regular hours, good food, and little movement (as far as he is concerned) will be far more beneficial to CAPABLE 14 than the irregular schedule he keeps in Bad Homburg.

7. With this situation confronting us, we had the following alternatives to choose from:

a. to decide CAPABLE 14's health presents too great a risk and refuse to accept his candidacy.

This would probably mean considerable delay in starting the next cycle, as we have already stated that CACCOLA 2 would not be acceptable, and CAPABLE 7 has stated that CACCOLAs 3 and 8 do not provide adequate CAPABLE 1 representation. (In this respect, it must be noted that the better the American representation, the more CAPABLE 7 insists on good CAPABLE 1 representation.) We might try to force CAPABLE 7 to begin the cycle with CACCOLA 3 as temporary head on the understanding that a new man would be found. Were we to succeed, and this would be at considerable cost to our good personal relations with him, we would suffer the disadvantages of a CAPABLE 1 man who, although a good instructor, is not a school leader, and of one who would be invested with little authority by CAPABLE 7 to assist in directing the current operations inside the USSR.

b. to accept CAPABLE 14 for the period of time CACCOLA 1 remains in Germany, assuming no responsibility for his health. We would refuse to take him to the U.S. and tell CAPABLE 7 another candidate must be found, processed and broken in by that time.

This alternative would allow us to begin the school on schedule with a strong instructor staff. It would give us the benefit of CAPABLE 14's personality and experience at least for a certain period. It would allow us to handle the current CACCOLA radio traffic at the school level without continually consulting CAPABLE 7 (the latter has stated he would allow CAPABLE 14 large latitude in deciding

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these matters with us). Should CAPABLE 14 collapse, we should be able to keep on with the school and, possibly, by that time a new candidate would have been designated.

c. to accept CAPABLE 14 for the time CACCOLA 1 remains in Germany, accepting financial responsibility for his health during this time, but allowing medical treatment by his own doctors.

d. to accept CAPABLE 14 for as long as his health permits, assuming only financial responsibility for his health while in Germany, but should the latter permit him to move with the school to the States, we would at that time assume responsibility for his medical treatment. It is understood that an assistant capable of replacing him at any time will be designated by CAPABLE 7 for our approval as soon as possible.

Even in the light of WASH 47216, we feel this is the best solution. It enhances the advantages of alternative (c) and allows us to continue with a good man as long as possible. The financial difference involved is not exorbitant, and it is in the interest of everyone that CAPABLE 14's life be prolonged by the best medical care. The security problem involved presents the following aspects: If CAPABLE 14 is forced to stop work, it will probably be to die, and operational secrets in all likelihood will accompany him to the grave. If he is confined for a long period of time to a sanatorium, it can be assumed he will disclose nothing as he is reputedly an exceedingly secure individual.

8. We recognize the difficulties inherent in getting an individual in his condition into the United States. We hope that somehow CAPABLE 7 will be able to turn up as good a man to replace him. However, if CAPABLE 14 is motivated to the extent that he would rather continue the fight and "die in harness", whether in the CACCOLA project or the Cadre School, then we are doing ourselves and the CACCOLA agents a distinct disservice if we do not use him to the very end. We will keep Headquarters informed in detail on his progress, health and effectiveness at the school so that if no adequate substitute is found and he must accompany CACCOLA 1 to the U.S., Headquarters will have sufficient data to make a decision.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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